

COLLEGE OF AMERICAN PATHOLOGISTS (CAP) CERTIFIED LABORATORY AT AFRIMS

Suchitra Sukwit¹, Chirapa Eamsila¹, Cheodchai Chuenchitra¹, Mark de Souza²,
Robert M Paris², Arthur E Brown² and Sorachai Nitayaphan¹

1. Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Bangkok, Thailand, Royal Thai Army

2. Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Bangkok, Thailand, USAMC

ABSTRACT

Good Clinical and Laboratory Practices are standard requirement for HIV vaccine trial and clinical laboratories. The College of American Pathologists (CAP) is well recognized as accrediting organization for inspection of clinical laboratories. To attain CAP accreditation HIV clinical laboratory at Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences (AFRIMS) need to design and implement a quality assurance program with key components consisting of standard operating procedures (SOP), laboratory personnel training, safety manual, maintenance control process, result reporting, data management. In addition to establish Quality Assurance program for validation the system and process that follows National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards Guidelines (NCCLS) and participates in the proficiency panel testing program for College of American Pathologist. The collaboration between Division of Research, RTA and Department of Retrovirology, USAMC have instituted a comprehensive QA program, the clinical laboratory achieved the first CAP accreditation in Thailand on September 2002. Upon successful complete of the inspection process, the laboratory is awarded CAP accreditation and become part of an exclusive group of many laboratories worldwide that have met both of US food and drug requirement and the highest standards of excellence. Furthermore, the participant laboratory is reviewed inspection by CAP for every two-year. For keeping CAP certified status, maintenance and improvement are the essential part of quality systems of HIV clinical laboratory.

(Source: Pre-Congress “New trend in laboratory medicine “for part of 32nd Pramongkutklao Conference, Bangkok, Thailand, 22 November 2004, Oral Presentation)